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Certified by



Jon W Dudas

Acting Under Secretary of Commerce  
for Intellectual Property  
and Acting Director of the U.S.  
Patent and Trademark Office





18334 U.S. PTO

## PROVISIONAL APPLICATION COVER SHEET

03917 U.S. PTO  
60/507507

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION under 35 USC 111(b).

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2. TITLE OF THE INVENTION:

2-CYANOBENZENESULFONAMIDES FOR COMBATING ANIMAL PESTS

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4. ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS:

☒ Specification 28 pages  
☐ Drawings      sheets  
☒ Claims 14 claims

5. METHOD OF PAYMENT

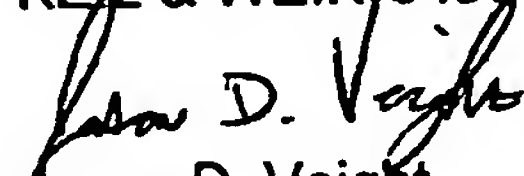
- ☒ A check in the amount of \$ 160.00 is attached to cover the required Provisional filing fee.  
☒ The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees to Deposit Account 11.0345.

6. The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.

- ☒ No  
☐ Yes, the name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government contract number are:     .

Respectfully submitted,

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## 2-Cyanobenzenesulfonamides for combating animal pests

The present invention relates to 2-cyanobenzenesulfonamide compounds and to the agriculturally useful salts thereof and to compositions comprising such compounds.

- 5 The invention also relates to the use of the 2-cyanobenzenesulfonamide compounds, of their salts or of compositions comprising them for combating animal pests.

Animal pests destroy growing and harvested crops and attack wooden dwelling and commercial structures, causing large economic loss to the food supply and to property.

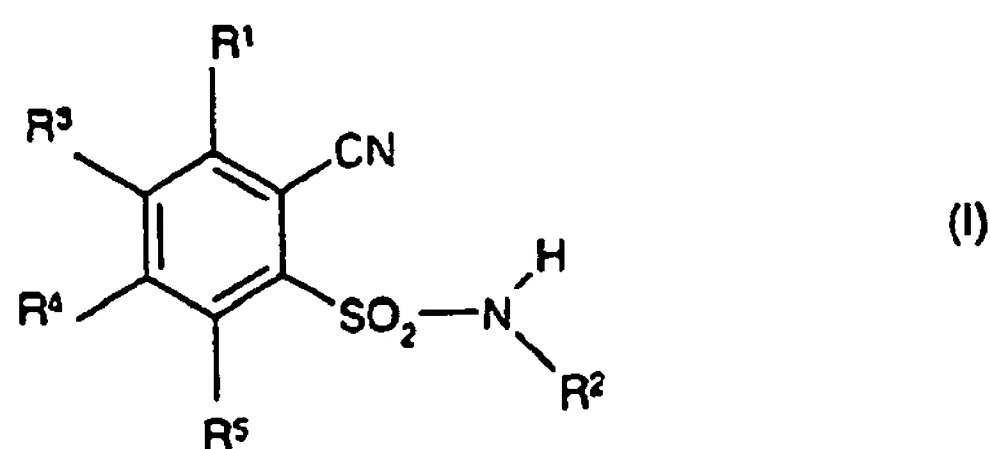
- 10 While a large number of pesticidal agents are known, due to the ability of target pests to develop resistance to said agents, there is an ongoing need for new agents for combating animal pests. In particular, animal pests such as insects and acaridae are difficult to be effectively controlled.

- 15 EP 0033984 describes substituted 2-cyanobenzenesulfonamide compounds having an aphicidal activity. The benzenesulfonamide compounds preferably carry a fluorine atom or chlorine atom in the 3-position of the phenyl ring. However, the pesticidal activity of said compounds is unsatisfactory and they are only active against aphids.

- 20 It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide compounds having a good pesticidal activity, especially against difficult to control insects and acaridae.

It has been found that these objects are solved by 2-cyanobenzenesulfonamide compounds of the general formula I

25



where

- 30 R<sup>1</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkoxy;

- R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkinyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, wherein the five last-mentioned radicals may be unsubstituted, partially or fully halogenated and/or may carry one, two, or three radicals selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfinyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, cyano, amino, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl)amino, di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl)amino and phenyl, it being possible for phenyl to be unsubstituted, partially or fully halogenated and/or to carry one, two
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or three substituents selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkoxy; and

5 R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are independently of one another selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, cyano, nitro, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfinyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkylthio, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkinyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, amino, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl)amino, di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl)amino, aminocarbonyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl)aminocarbonyl and di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl)aminocarbonyl;

10 and by their agriculturally acceptable salts. The compounds of the formula I and their agriculturally acceptable salts have a high pesticidal activity, especially against difficult to control insects and acaridae.

15 Accordingly, the present invention relates to 2-cyanobenzenesulfonamide compounds of the general formula I and to their agriculturally useful salts.

Moreover, the present invention relates to

- the use of compounds I and/or their salts for combating animal pests;
- 20 - agricultural compositions comprising such an amount of at least one 2-cyanobenzenesulfonamide compound of the formula I and/or at least one agriculturally useful salt of I and at least one inert liquid and/or solid agronomically acceptable carrier that it has a pesticidal action and, if desired, at least one surfactant; and
- 25 - a method of combating animal pests which comprises contacting the animal pests, their habit, breeding ground, food supply, plant, seed, soil, area, material or environment in which the animal pests are growing or may grow, or the materials, plants, seeds, soils, surfaces or spaces to be protected from animal attack or infestation with a pesticidally effective amount of at least one 2-cyano-
- 30 benzenesulfonamide compound of the general formula I and/or at least one agriculturally acceptable salt thereof.

35 In the substituents R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>5</sup> the compounds of the general formula I may have one or more centers of chirality, in which case they are present as mixtures of enantiomers or diastereomers. The present invention provides both the pure enantiomers or diastereomers or mixtures thereof.

40 Salts of the compounds of the formula I which are suitable for the use according to the invention are especially agriculturally acceptable salts. They can be formed in a customary method, e.g. by reacting the compound with an acid of the anion in question.

Suitable agriculturally useful salts are especially the salts of those cations or the acid addition salts of those acids whose cations and anions, respectively, do not have any adverse effect on the action of the compounds according to the present invention,

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which are useful for combating harmful insects or arachnids. Thus, suitable cations are in particular the ions of the alkali metals, preferably lithium, sodium and potassium, of the alkaline earth metals, preferably calcium, magnesium and barium, and of the transition metals, preferably manganese, copper, zinc and iron, and also the ammonium ion which may, if desired, carry one to four C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl substituents and/or one phenyl or benzyl substituent, preferably diisopropylammonium, tetramethylammonium, tetrabutylammonium, trimethylbenzylammonium, furthermore phosphonium ions, sulfonium ions, preferably tri(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl)sulfonium, and sulfoxonium ions, preferably tri(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl)sulfoxonium.

Anions of useful acid addition salts are primarily chloride, bromide, fluoride, hydrogen sulfate, sulfate, dihydrogen phosphate, hydrogen phosphate, phosphate, nitrate, hydrogen carbonate, carbonate, hexafluorosilicate, hexafluorophosphate, benzoate, and the anions of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkanoic acids, preferably formate, acetate, propionate and butyrate. They can be formed by reacting the compounds of the formulae Ia and Ib with an acid of the corresponding anion, preferably of hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, sulfuric acid, phosphoric acid or nitric acid.

The organic moieties mentioned in the above definitions of the variables are - like the term halogen - collective terms for individual listings of the individual group members. The prefix C<sub>n</sub>-C<sub>m</sub> indicates in each case the possible number of carbon atoms in the group.

The term halogen denotes in each case fluorine, bromine, chlorine or iodine.

Examples of other meanings are :

The term "C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl" as used herein and the alkyl moieties of alkylamino and dialkylamino refer to a saturated straight-chain or branched hydrocarbon radical having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, i.e., for example methyl, ethyl, propyl, 1-methylethyl, butyl, 1-methylpropyl, 2-methylpropyl or 1,1-dimethylethyl.

The term "C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl" as used herein refers to a saturated straight-chain or branched hydrocarbon radical having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, for example one of the radicals mentioned under C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl and also n-pentyl, 1-methylbutyl, 2-methylbutyl, 3-methylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylpropyl, 1-ethylpropyl, n-hexyl, 1,1-dimethylpropyl, 1,2-dimethylpropyl, 1-methylpentyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 4-methylpentyl, 1,1-dimethylbutyl, 1,2-dimethylbutyl, 1,3-dimethylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylbutyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, 3,3-dimethylbutyl, 1-ethylbutyl, 2-ethylbutyl, 1,1,2-trimethylpropyl, 1,2,2-trimethylpropyl, 1-ethyl-1-methylpropyl, 1-ethyl-2-methylpropyl.

The term "C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkyl" as used herein refers to a straight-chain or branched saturated alkyl radical having 1 to 4 carbon atoms (as mentioned above), where some or all of the hydrogen atoms in these radicals may be replaced by fluorine, chlorine, bromine

and/or iodine, i.e., for example chloromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, fluoro-  
methyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, chlorofluoromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, chloro-  
difluoromethyl, 2-fluoroethyl, 2-chloroethyl, 2-bromoethyl, 2-iodoethyl, 2,2-difluoroethyl,  
2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 2-chloro-2-fluoroethyl, 2-chloro-2,2-difluoroethyl, 2,2-dichloro-2-  
5 fluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trichloroethyl, pentafluoroethyl, 2-fluoropropyl, 3-fluoropropyl, 2,2-  
difluoropropyl, 2,3-difluoropropyl, 2-chloropropyl, 3-chloropropyl, 2,3-dichloropropyl, 2-  
bromopropyl, 3-bromopropyl, 3,3,3-trifluoropropyl, 3,3,3-trichloropropyl, 2,2,3,3,3-  
pentafluoropropyl, heptafluoropropyl, 1-(fluoromethyl)-2-fluoroethyl, 1-(chloromethyl)-2-  
chloroethyl, 1-(bromomethyl)-2-bromoethyl, 4-fluorobutyl, 4-chlorobutyl, 4-bromobutyl  
10 or nonafluorobutyl.

The term "C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-fluoroalkyl" as used herein refers to a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-alkyl radical which carries  
1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 fluorine atoms, for example difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, 1-fluoroethyl,  
2-fluoroethyl, 2,2-difluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 1,1,2,2-tetrafluoroethyl or  
15 pentafluoroethyl.

The term "C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy" as used herein refers to a straight-chain or branched saturated  
alkyl radical having 1 to 4 carbon atoms (as mentioned above) which is attached via an  
oxygen atom, i.e., for example methoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, 1-methylethoxy, n-butoxy,  
20 1-methylpropoxy, 2-methylpropoxy or 1,1-dimethylethoxy.

The term "C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkoxy" as used herein refers to a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy radical as men-  
tioned above which is partially or fully substituted by fluorine, chlorine, bromine and/or  
iodine, i.e., for example, chloromethoxy, dichloromethoxy, trichloromethoxy, fluoro-  
25 methoxy, difluoromethoxy, trifluoromethoxy, chlorofluoromethoxy, dichlorofluorometh-  
oxy, chlorodifluoromethoxy, 2-fluoroethoxy, 2-chloroethoxy, 2-bromoethoxy, 2-  
iodoethoxy, 2,2-difluoroethoxy, 2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy, 2-chloro-2-fluoroethoxy, 2-chloro-  
2,2-difluoroethoxy, 2,2-dichloro-2-fluoroethoxy, 2,2,2-trichloroethoxy, pentafluoroeth-  
oxy, 2-fluoropropoxy, 3-fluoropropoxy, 2,2-difluoropropoxy, 2,3-difluoropropoxy, 2-  
30 chloropropoxy, 3-chloropropoxy, 2,3-dichloropropoxy, 2-bromopropoxy, 3-  
bromopropoxy, 3,3,3-trifluoropropoxy, 3,3,3-trichloropropoxy, 2,2,3,3,3-  
pentafluoropropoxy, heptafluoropropoxy, 1-(fluoromethyl)-2-fluoroethoxy, 1-  
(chloromethyl)-2-chloroethoxy, 1-(bromomethyl)-2-bromoethoxy, 4-fluorobutoxy, 4-  
chlorobutoxy, 4-bromobutoxy or nonafluorobutoxy.

35 The term "C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylthio (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfanyl: C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl-S-)" as used herein refers to  
a straight-chain or branched saturated alkyl radical having 1 to 4 carbon atoms (as  
mentioned above) which is attached via a sulfur atom, i.e., for example methylthio,  
ethylthio, n-propylthio, 1-methylethylthio, butylthio, 1-methylpropylthio, 2-  
40 methylpropylthio or 1,1-dimethylethylthio.

The term "C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfinyl" (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl-S(=O)-), as used herein refers to a straight-  
chain or branched saturated hydrocarbon radical (as mentioned above) having 1 to 4  
carbon atoms bonded through the sulfur atom of the sulfinyl group at any bond in the

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alkyl radical, i.e., for example  $\text{SO}-\text{CH}_3$ ,  $\text{SO}-\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$ , n-propylsulfinyl, 1-methylethylsulfinyl, n-butylsulfinyl, 1-methylpropylsulfinyl, 2-methylpropylsulfinyl, 1,1-dimethylethylsulfinyl, n-pentylsulfinyl, 1-methylbutylsulfinyl, 2-methylbutylsulfinyl, 3-methylbutylsulfinyl, 1,1-dimethylpropylsulfinyl, 1,2-dimethylpropylsulfinyl, 2,2-dimethylpropylsulfinyl or 1-ethylpropylsulfinyl.

The term "C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonyl" (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl-S(=O)<sub>2</sub>-) as used herein refers to a straight-chain or branched saturated alkyl radical having 1 to 4 carbon atoms (as mentioned above) which is bonded via the sulfur atom of the sulfonyl group at any bond in the alkyl radical, i. e., for example  $\text{SO}_2-\text{CH}_3$ ,  $\text{SO}_2-\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$ , n-propylsulfonyl,  $\text{SO}_2-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ , n-butylsulfonyl, 1-methylpropylsulfonyl, 2-methylpropylsulfonyl or  $\text{SO}_2-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ .

The term "C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkylthio" as used herein refers to a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylthio radical as mentioned above which is partially or fully substituted by fluorine, chlorine, bromine and/or iodine, i.e., for example, fluoromethylthio, difluoromethylthio, trifluoromethylthio, chlorodifluoromethylthio, bromodifluoromethylthio, 2-fluoroethylthio, 2-chloroethylthio, 2-bromoethylthio, 2-iodoethylthio, 2,2-difluoroethylthio, 2,2,2-trifluoroethylthio, 2,2,2-trichloroethylthio, 2-chloro-2-fluoroethylthio, 2-chloro-2,2-difluoroethylthio, 2,2-dichloro-2-fluoroethylthio, pentafluoroethylthio, 2-fluoropropylthio, 3-fluoropropylthio, 2-chloropropylthio, 3-chloropropylthio, 2-bromopropylthio, 3-bromopropylthio, 2,2-difluoropropylthio, 2,3-difluoropropylthio, 2,3-dichloropropylthio, 3,3,3-trifluoropropylthio, 3,3,3-trichloropropylthio, 2,2,3,3,3-pentafluoropropylthio, heptafluoropropylthio, 1-(fluoromethyl)-2-fluoroethylthio, 1-(chloromethyl)-2-chloroethylthio, 1-(bromomethyl)-2-bromoethylthio, 4-fluorobutylthio, 4-chlorobutylthio, 4-bromobutylthio or nonafluorobutylthio.

The term "C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl" as used herein refers to a straight-chain or branched alkoxy radical (as mentioned above) having 1 to 4 carbon atoms attached via the carbon atom of the carbonyl group, i.e., for example methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, n-propoxycarbonyl, 1-methylethoxycarbonyl, n-butoxycarbonyl, 1-methylpropoxycarbonyl, 2-methylpropoxycarbonyl or 1,1-dimethylethoxycarbonyl.

The term "(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino)carbonyl" as used herein refers to, for example, methylaminocarbonyl, ethylaminocarbonyl, propylaminocarbonyl, 1-methylethylaminocarbonyl, butylaminocarbonyl, 1-methylpropylaminocarbonyl, 2-methylpropylaminocarbonyl or 1,1-dimethylethylaminocarbonyl.

The term "di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl)aminocarbonyl" as used herein refers to, for example, N,N-dimethylaminocarbonyl, N,N-diethylaminocarbonyl, N,N-di-(1-methylethyl)aminocarbonyl, N,N-dipropylaminocarbonyl, N,N-dibutylaminocarbonyl, N,N-di-(1-methylpropyl)aminocarbonyl, N,N-di-(2-methylpropyl)aminocarbonyl, N,N-di-(1,1-dimethylethyl)aminocarbonyl, N-ethyl-N-methylaminocarbonyl, N-methyl-N-propylaminocarbonyl, N-methyl-N-(1-methylethyl)aminocarbonyl, N-butyl-N-methylaminocarbonyl, N-methyl-N-(1-methylpropyl)aminocarbonyl, N-methyl-N-(2-



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- methylpropyl)aminocarbonyl, N-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-N-methylaminocarbonyl, N-ethyl-N-propylaminocarbonyl, N-ethyl-N-(1-methylethyl)aminocarbonyl, N-butyl-N-ethylaminocarbonyl, N-ethyl-N-(1-methylpropyl)aminocarbonyl, N-ethyl-N-(2-methylpropyl)aminocarbonyl, N-ethyl-N-(1,1-dimethylethyl)aminocarbonyl, N-(1-methylethyl)-N-propylaminocarbonyl, N-butyl-N-propylaminocarbonyl, N-(1-methylpropyl)-N-propylaminocarbonyl, N-(2-methylpropyl)-N-propylaminocarbonyl, N-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-N-propylaminocarbonyl, N-butyl-N-(1-methylethyl)aminocarbonyl, N-(1-methylethyl)-N-(1-methylpropyl)aminocarbonyl, N-(1-methylethyl)-N-(2-methylpropyl)aminocarbonyl, N-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-N-(1-methylethyl)aminocarbonyl, N-butyl-N-(1-methylpropyl)aminocarbonyl, N-butyl-N-(2-methylpropyl)aminocarbonyl, N-butyl-N-(1,1-dimethylethyl)aminocarbonyl, N-(1-methylpropyl)-N-(2-methylpropyl)aminocarbonyl, N-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-N-(1-methylpropyl)aminocarbonyl or N-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-N-(2-methylpropyl)aminocarbonyl.
- 15 The term "C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenyl" as used herein refers to a straight-chain or branched mono-unsaturated hydrocarbon radical having 2 to 6 carbon atoms and a double bond in any position, i.e., for example ethenyl, 1-propenyl, 2-propenyl, 1-methyl-ethenyl, 1-butenyl, 2-butenyl, 3-butenyl, 1-methyl-1-propenyl, 2-methyl-1-propenyl, 1-methyl-2-propenyl, 2-methyl-2-propenyl, 1-pentenyl, 2-pentenyl, 3-pentenyl, 4-pentenyl, 1-methyl-1-butenyl, 2-methyl-1-butenyl, 3-methyl-1-butenyl, 1-methyl-2-butenyl, 2-methyl-2-butenyl, 3-methyl-2-butenyl, 1-methyl-3-butenyl, 2-methyl-3-butenyl, 3-methyl-3-butenyl, 1,1-dimethyl-2-propenyl, 1,2-dimethyl-1-propenyl, 1,2-dimethyl-2-propenyl, 1-ethyl-1-propenyl, 1-ethyl-2-propenyl, 1-hexenyl, 2-hexenyl, 3-hexenyl, 4-hexenyl, 5-hexenyl, 1-methyl-1-pentenyl, 2-methyl-1-pentenyl, 3-methyl-1-pentenyl, 4-methyl-1-pentenyl, 1-methyl-2-pentenyl, 2-methyl-2-pentenyl, 3-methyl-2-pentenyl, 4-methyl-2-pentenyl, 1-methyl-3-pentenyl, 2-methyl-3-pentenyl, 3-methyl-3-pentenyl, 4-methyl-3-pentenyl, 1-methyl-4-pentenyl, 2-methyl-4-pentenyl, 3-methyl-4-pentenyl, 4-methyl-4-pentenyl, 1,1-dimethyl-2-butenyl, 1,1-dimethyl-3-butenyl, 1,2-dimethyl-1-butenyl, 1,2-dimethyl-2-butenyl, 1,2-dimethyl-3-butenyl, 1,3-dimethyl-1-butenyl, 1,3-dimethyl-2-butenyl, 1,3-dimethyl-3-butenyl, 2,2-dimethyl-3-butenyl, 2,3-dimethyl-1-butenyl, 2,3-dimethyl-2-butenyl, 2,3-dimethyl-3-butenyl, 3,3-dimethyl-1-butenyl, 3,3-dimethyl-2-butenyl, 1-ethyl-1-butenyl, 1-ethyl-2-butenyl, 1-ethyl-3-butenyl, 2-ethyl-1-butenyl, 2-ethyl-2-butenyl, 2-ethyl-3-butenyl, 1,1,2-trimethyl-2-propenyl, 1-ethyl-1-methyl-2-propenyl, 1-ethyl-2-methyl-1-propenyl and 1-ethyl-2-methyl-2-propenyl.
- 35 The term "C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkynyl" as used herein refers to a straight-chain or branched aliphatic hydrocarbon radical which contains a C-C triple bond and has 2 to 6 carbons atoms: for example ethynyl, prop-1-yn-1-yl, prop-2-yn-1-yl, n-but-1-yn-1-yl, n-but-1-yn-3-yl, n-but-1-yn-4-yl, n-but-2-yn-1-yl, n-pent-1-yn-1-yl, n-pent-1-yn-3-yl, n-pent-1-yn-4-yl, n-pent-1-yn-5-yl, n-pent-2-yn-1-yl, n-pent-2-yn-4-yl, n-pent-2-yn-5-yl, 3-methylbut-1-yn-3-yl, 3-methylbut-1-yn-4-yl, n-hex-1-yn-1-yl, n-hex-1-yn-3-yl, n-hex-1-yn-4-yl, n-hex-1-yn-5-yl, n-hex-1-yn-6-yl, n-hex-2-yn-1-yl, n-hex-2-yn-4-yl, n-hex-2-yn-5-yl, n-hex-2-yn-6-yl, n-hex-3-yn-1-yl, n-hex-3-yn-2-yl, 3-methylpent-1-yn-1-yl, 3-methylpent-1-yn-3-yl, 3-

methylpent-1-yn-4-yl, 3-methylpent-1-yn-5-yl, 4-methylpent-1-yn-1-yl, 4-methylpent-2-yn-4-yl or 4-methylpent-2-yn-5-yl and the like.

5 The term "C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl" as used herein refers to a monocyclic hydrocarbon radical having 3 to 8 carbon atoms, for example cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl or cyclooctyl.

10 Among the 2-cyanobenzenesulfonamide compounds of the general formula I, preference is given to those in which the variables R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup>, independently of one another, but in particular in combination, have the meanings given below:

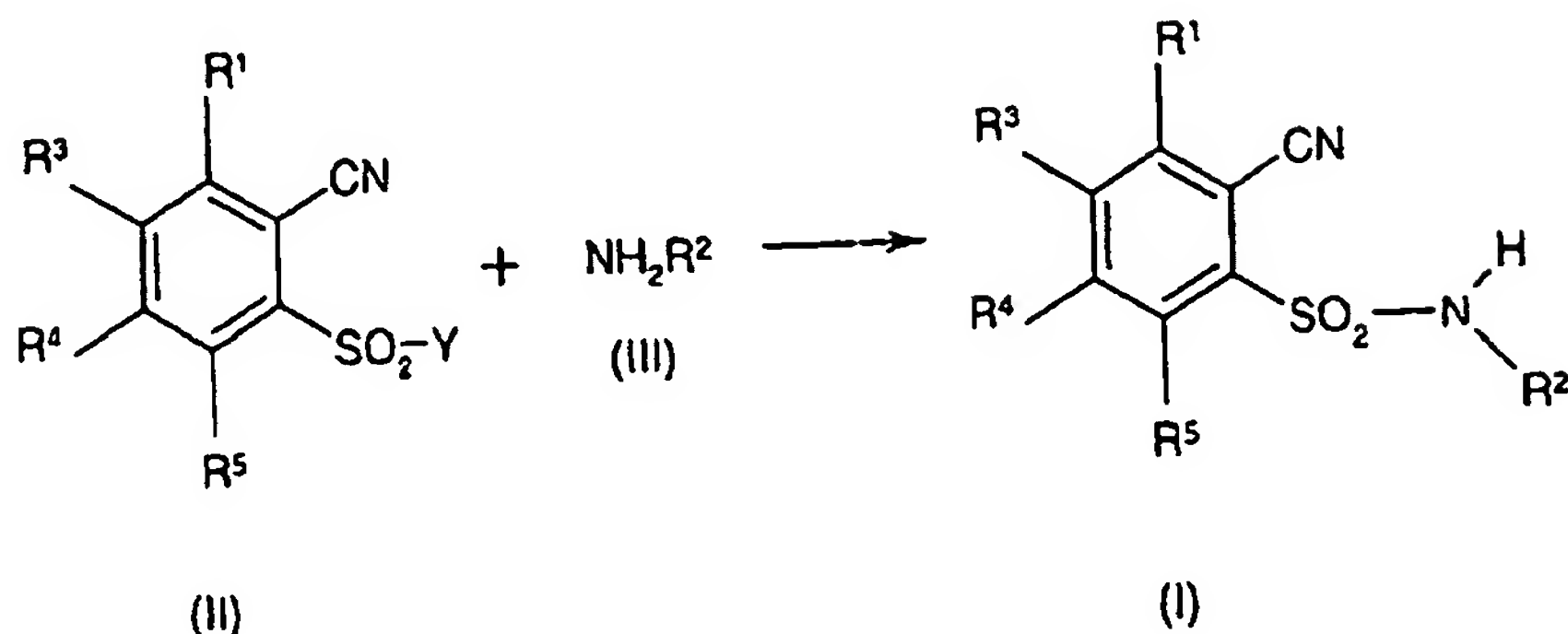
R<sup>1</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-alkyl, especially methyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-alkoxy, especially methoxy;  
R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen or a linear or straight-chain hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 4  
15 carbon atoms e.g. C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, in particular straight-chain C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkyl, in particular C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-fluoroalkyl or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkinyl. Most preferred are compounds I wherein R<sup>2</sup> is selected from methyl, ethyl, 2-fluoroethyl and prop-2-yn-1-yl.

20 A preferred embodiment of the present invention relates to 2-cyanobenzene-sulfonamide compounds of the general formula I where the variables R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> have the meanings mentioned above and in particular the meanings given as being preferred and at least one of the radicals R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> or R<sup>5</sup> is different from hydrogen. Preferably one or two of the radicals R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> represent hydrogen. Amongst these compounds preference is given to those compounds wherein R<sup>3</sup> is different from hydrogen  
25 and preferably represents halogen, especially chlorine or fluorine, and the other radicals R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are hydrogen.

30 Another preferred embodiment of the present invention relates to 2-cyanobenzene-sulfonamide compounds of the general formula I where the variables R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> have the meanings mentioned above and in particular the meanings given as being preferred and each of the radicals R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> represent hydrogen.

35 The 2-cyanobenzenesulfonamide compounds of the formula I can be prepared, for example, by reacting a 2-cyanobenzenesulfonylhalide II with ammonia or a primary amine (III), similarly to a process described in J. March, 4<sup>th</sup> edition 1992, p. 499 (see Scheme 1).

Scheme 1:



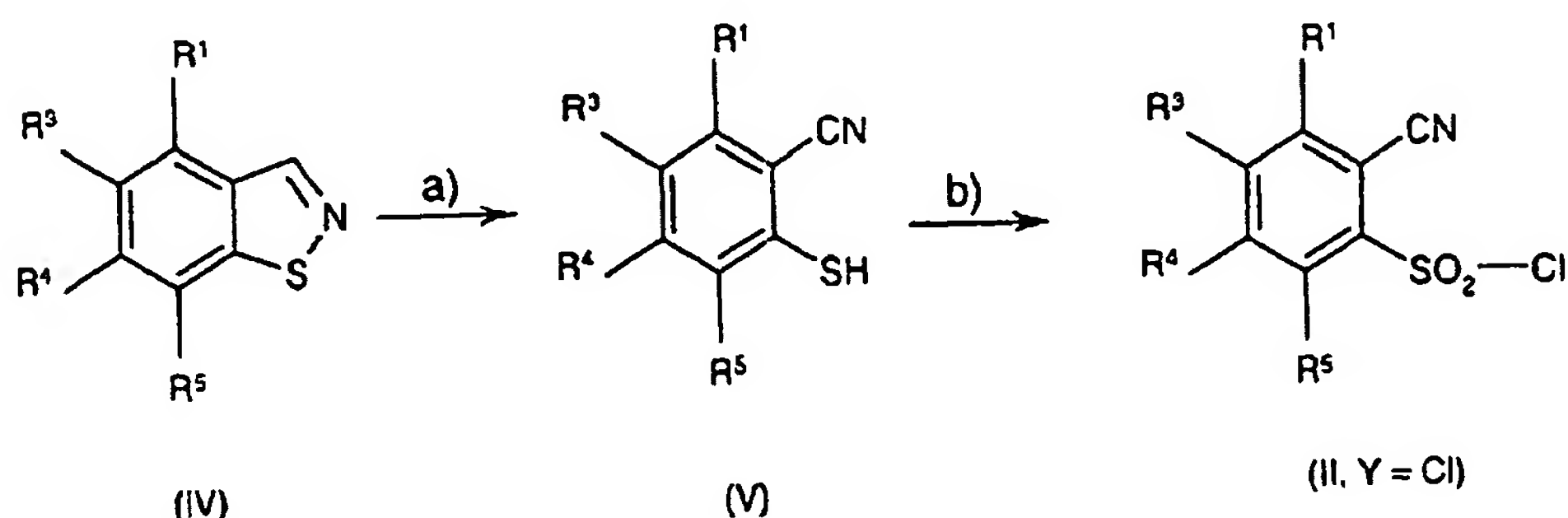
- In Scheme 1 the variables R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>5</sup> are as defined above and Y is halogen, especially chlorine or bromine. The reaction of a sulfonylhalide II, especially a sulfonylchloride, with an amine III is usually carried out in the presence of a solvent. Suitable solvents are polar solvents which are inert under the reaction conditions, for example C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkanols such as methanol, ethanol, n-propanol or isopropanol, dialkyl ethers such as diethyl ether, diisopropyl ether or methyl tert-butyl ether, cyclic ethers such as dioxane or tetrahydrofuran, acetonitrile, carboxamides such as N,N-dimethyl formamide, N,N-dimethyl acetamide or N-methylpyrrolidinone, water, (provided the sulfonylhalide II is sufficiently resistant to hydrolysis under the reaction conditions used) or a mixture thereof.
- In general, the amine III is employed in an at least equimolar amount, preferably at least 2-fold molar excess, based on the sulfonylhalide II, to bind the hydrogen halide formed. It may be advantageous to employ the primary amine III in an up to 6-fold molar excess, based on the sulfonylhalide II.
- It may be advantageous to carry out the reaction in the presence of an auxiliary base. Suitable auxiliary bases include organic bases, for example tertiary amines, such as aliphatic tertiary amines, such as trimethylamine, triethylamine or diisopropylamine, cycloaliphatic tertiary amines such as N-methylpiperidine or aromatic amines such as pyridine, substituted pyridines such as 2,3,5-collidine, 2,4,6-collidine, 2,4-lutidine, 3,5-lutidine or 2,6-lutidine and inorganic bases for example alkali metal carbonates and alkaline earth metal carbonates such as lithium carbonate, potassium carbonate and sodium carbonate, calcium carbonate and alkaline metal hydrogencarbonates such as sodium hydrogen carbonate. The molar ratio of auxiliary base to sulfonylhalide II is preferably in the range of from 1:1 to 4:1, preferably 1:1 to 2:1. If the reaction is carried out in the presence of an auxiliary base, the molar ratio of primary amine III to sulfonylhalide II usually is 1:1 to 1.5:1.

The reaction is usually carried out at a reaction temperature ranging from 0°C to the boiling point of the solvent, preferably from 0 to 30°C.

If not commercially available, the sulfonylhalide compounds II may be prepared, for example by one of the processes as described below.

- 5 The preparation of the sulfonylchloride compound II can be carried out, for example, according to the reaction sequence shown in Scheme 2 where the variables  $R^1$ ,  $R^3$  to  $R^5$  are as defined above:

Scheme 2:

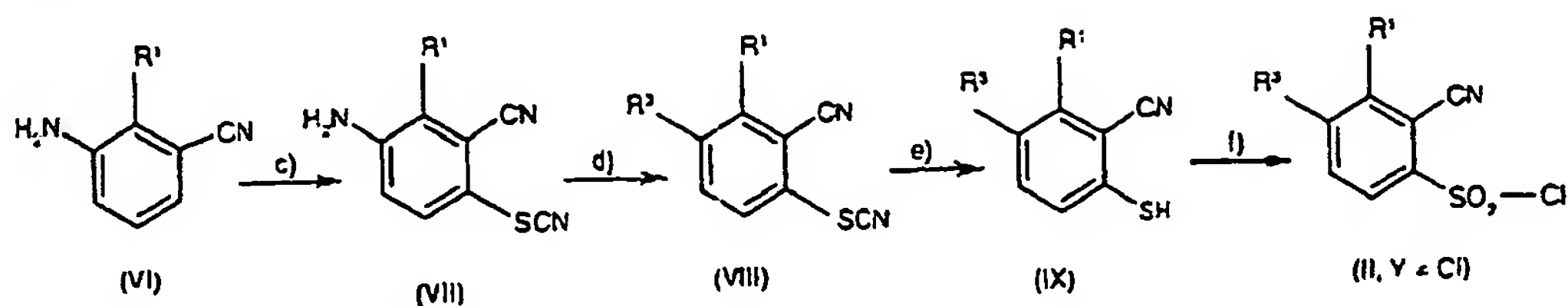


10

- a) conversion of a benzisothiazole IV to a thiol V, for example, in analogy to a process described in Liebigs Ann. Chem. 1980, 768-778, by reacting IV with a base such as an alkali metal hydroxide and alkaline earth metal hydroxide such as sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide and calcium hydroxide, an alkali metal hydride such as sodium hydride or potassium hydride or an alkoxide such as sodium methoxide, sodium ethoxide and the like in an inert organic solvent, for example an ether such as diethyl ether, diisopropyl ether, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, or in a alcohol such as methanol, ethanol, propanol, isopropanol, butanol, 1,2-ethanediol, diethylene glycol, or in a carboxamide such as N,N-dimethyl formamide, N,N-dimethyl acetamide or N-methylpyrrolidinone or in dimethylsulfoxide or in a mixture of the above mentioned solvents; and acidification to yield the thiol V. The benzisothiazole IV can be prepared in analogy to a process described in Liebigs Ann. Chem 729, 146-151 (1969); and subsequent
- 25 b) oxidation of the thiol V to the sulfonylchloride II ( $Y = Cl$ ), for example, by reacting the thiol V with chlorine in water or a water-solvent mixture, e.g. a mixture of water and acetic acid, in analogy to a process described in Jerry March, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, 1985, reaction 9-27, page 1087.
- 30 Compounds II (where Y is chlorine and  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  are hydrogen) may be prepared by the reaction sequence shown in Scheme 3 where the variable  $R^1$  has the meanings given above and  $R^3$  is H, Cl, Br, I or CN:



Scheme 3:

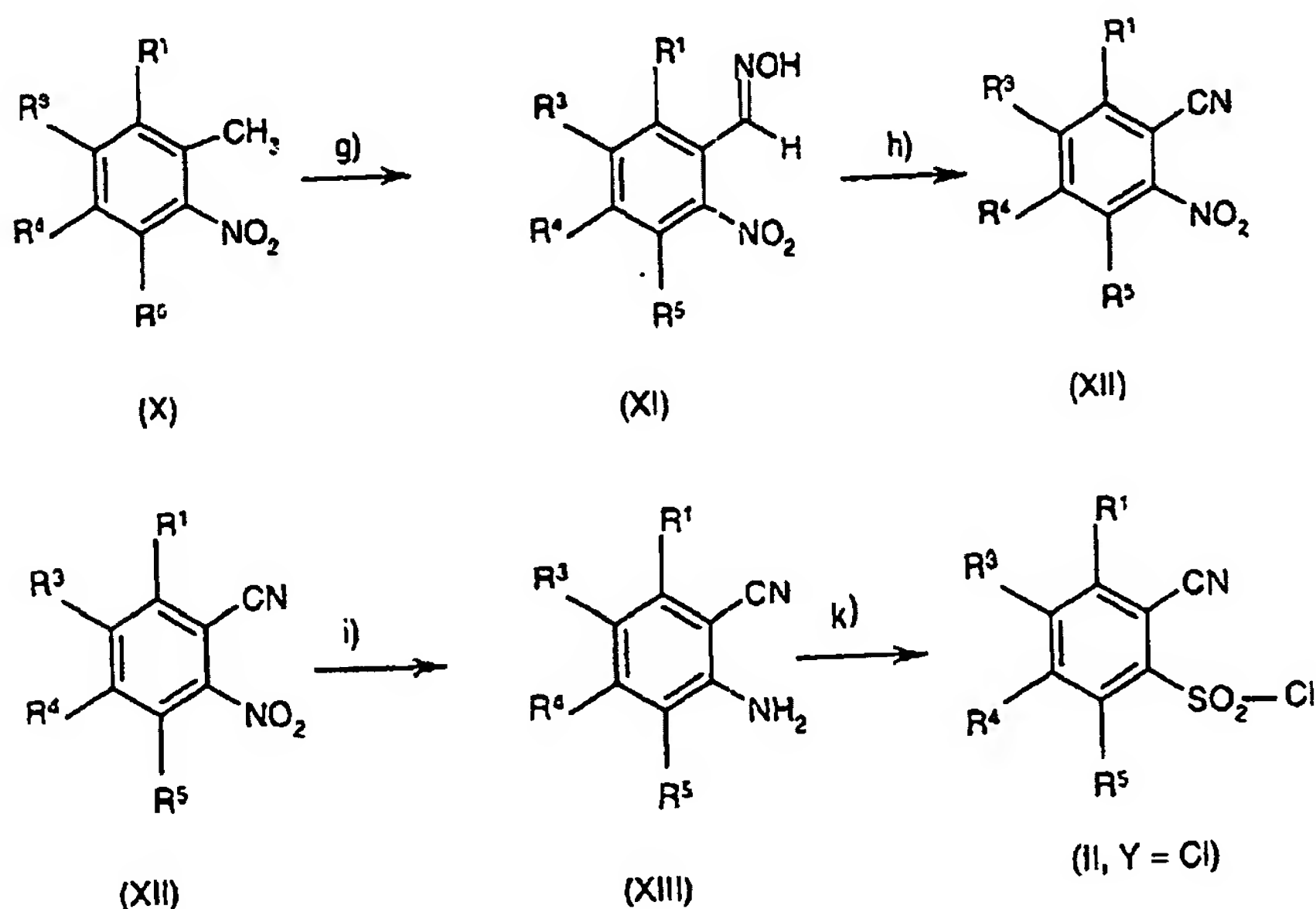


- 5 c) preparing a thiocyanato compound VII by thiocyanation of the aniline VI with thio-  
cyanogen, for example, in analogy to a process described in EP 945 449, in Jerry  
March, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, 1985, p. 476, in *Neuere Methoden der organischen Chemie*,  
Vol. 1, 237 (1944) or in J.L. Wood, *Organic Reactions*, vol. III, 240 (1946); the  
thiocyanogen is usually prepared in situ by reacting, for example, sodium thiocy-  
anate with bromine in an inert solvent. Suitable solvents include alkanols such as  
10 methanol or ethanol or carboxylic acids such as acetic acid, propionic acid or  
isobutyric acid and mixtures thereof. Preferably, the inert solvent is methanol to  
which some sodium bromide may have been added for stabilization.
- 15 d) conversion of the amino group in VII into a diazonium group by a conventional  
diazotation followed by conversion of the diazonium group into hydrogen, chlo-  
rine, bromine or iodine or cyano. Suitable nitrosating agents are nitrosonium  
tetrafluoroborate, nitrosyl chloride, nitrosyl sulfuric acid, alkyl nitrites such as t-  
butyl nitrite, or salts of nitrous acid such as sodium nitrite. The conversion of the  
resulting diazonium salt into the corresponding compound VIII where R<sup>3</sup> = cyano,  
20 chlorine, bromine or iodine may be carried out by treatment of VII with a solution  
or suspension of a copper(I) salt, such as copper(I) cyanide, chloride, bromide or  
iodide or with a solution of an alkali metal salt (cf., for example, Houben-Weyl,  
*Methoden der organischen Chemie* [Methods of Organic Chemistry], Georg  
Thieme Verlag Stuttgart, Vol. 5/4, 4<sup>th</sup> edition 1960, p. 438 ff.) The conversion of  
25 the resulting diazonium salt into the corresponding compound VIII where R<sup>3</sup> = H,  
for example, may be carried out by treatment with hypophosphorous acid, phos-  
phorous acid, sodium stannite or in non-aqueous media by treatment with tribu-  
tyltin hydride or (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SnH or with sodium borohydride (cf., for example, Jerry  
March, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, 1985, 646f).
- 30 e) reduction of the thiocyanate VIII to the corresponding thiol compound IX by  
treatment with zinc in the presence of sulfuric acid or by treatment with sodium  
sulfide; and subsequent
- 35 f) oxidation of the thiol IX to obtain the sulfonylchloride II in analogy to step b) of  
scheme 2.

11

Furthermore, the benzenesulfonylchloride II (Y = Cl) may be prepared by the reaction sequence shown in Scheme 4 where the variables R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are as defined above.

## 5 Scheme 4:



- 10 (g) transformation of nitrotoluene X into the benzaldoxime compound XI, for example in analogy to a process described in WO 00/29394. The transformation of X into XI is e.g. achieved by reacting nitro compound X with an organic nitrite R-ONO, wherein R is alkyl in the presence of a base. Suitable nitrites are C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl nitrites such as n-butyl nitrite or (iso)amyl nitrite. Suitable bases are alkali metal alkoxides such as sodium methoxide, potassium methoxide or potassium tert-butoxide, alkali metal hydroxides such as NaOH or KOH or organo magnesium compounds such as Grignard reagents of the formula R'MgX (R' = alkyl, X = halogen). The reaction is usually carried out in an inert solvent, which preferably comprises a polar aprotic solvent. Suitable polar aprotic solvents include carboxamides such as N,N-dialkylformamides, e.g. N,N-dimethylformamide, N,N-dialkylacetamides, e.g. N,N-dimethylacetamide or N-alkyllactams e.g. N-methylpyrrolidone or mixtures thereof or mixtures thereof with non-polar solvents such as alkanes, cycloalkanes and aromatic solvents e.g. toluene and xylenes. When using sodium bases, 1-10 mol % of an alcohol may be added, if appropriate. The stoichiometric ratios are, for example, as follows: 1-4 equivalents of base, 1-2 equivalents of R-ONO; preferably 1.5-2.5 equivalents of base and 1-1.3 equivalents of R-ONO; equally preferably: 1-2 equivalents of base and 1-1.3 equivalents of R-ONO. The reaction is usually carried out in the range from -60°C to room temperature, preferably -50°C to -20°C, in particular from -35°C to -25°C.

## 12

- (h) dehydration of the aldoxime XI to the nitrile XII, for example by treatment with a dehydrating agent such as acetic anhydride, ethyl orthoformate and  $H^+$ ,  $(C_6H_5)_3P-CCl_4$ , trichloromethyl chloroformate, methyl (or ethyl) cyanoformate, trifluoromethane sulfonic anhydride in analogy to a procedure described in Jerry March, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, 1992, 1038f;
- (i) reduction of compound XII to the aniline XIII, for example by reacting the nitro compound XII with a metal, such as iron, zinc or tin or with  $SnCl_2$ , under acidic conditions, with a complex hydride, such as lithium aluminium hydride and sodium. The reduction may be carried out without dilution or in a solvent or diluent. Suitable solvents are – depending on the reduction reagent chosen – for example water, alkanols, such as methanol, ethanol and isopropanol, or ethers, such as diethyl ether, methyl tert-butyl ether, dioxane, tetrahydrofuran and ethylene glycol dimethyl ether.
- The nitro group in compound XII may also be converted into an amino group by catalytic hydrogenation (see, for example, Houben Weyl, Vol. IV/1c, p. 506 ff or WO 00/29394). Catalysts being suitable are, for example, platinum or palladium catalysts, wherein the metal may be supported on an inert carrier such as activated carbon, clays, celithe, silica, alumina, alkaline or earth alkaline carbonates etc. The metal content of the catalyst may vary from 1 to 20% by weight, based on the support. In general, from 0.001 to 1% by weight of platinum or palladium, based on the nitro compound XII, preferably from 0.01 to 1% by weight of platinum or palladium are used. The reaction is usually carried out either without a solvent or in an inert solvent or diluent. Suitable solvents or diluents include aromatics such as benzene, toluene, xylenes, carboxamides such as N,N-dialkylformamides, e.g. N,N-dimethylformamide, N,N-dialkylacetamides, e.g. N,N-dimethylacetamide or N-alkyl lactames e.g. N-methylpyrrolidone, tetraalkylureas, such as tetramethylurea, tetrabutylurea, N,N'-dimethylpropylene urea and N,N'-dimethylethylene urea, alkanols such as methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, or n-butanol, ethers, such as diethyl ether, methyl tert-butyl ether, dioxane, tetrahydrofuran and ethylene glycol dimethyl ether, carboxylic acids such as acetic acid or propionic acid, carbonic acid ester such as ethyl acetate. The reaction temperature is usually in the range from  $-20^\circ C$  to  $100^\circ C$ , preferably  $0^\circ C$  to  $50^\circ C$ . The hydrogenation may be carried out under atmospheric hydrogen pressure or elevated hydrogen pressure.
- (k) conversion of the amino group of compound XIII into the corresponding diazonium group followed by reacting the diazonium salt with sulfur dioxide in the presence of copper(II) chloride to afford the sulfonylchloride II. The diazonium salt may be prepared as described in step d) of scheme 3. Preferably, sodium nitrite is used as alkyl nitrite. In general, the sulfur dioxide is dissolved in glacial acetic acid.

## 13

The compounds of formula XIII may also be prepared according to methods described in WO 94/18980 using ortho-nitroanilines as precursors or WO 00/059868 using isatin precursors.

- 5 If individual compounds cannot be obtained via the above-described routes, they can be prepared by derivatization of other compounds I or by customary modifications of the synthesis routes described.

- 10 The reaction mixtures are worked up in the customary manner, for example by mixing with water, separating the phases and, if appropriate, purifying the crude products by chromatography, for example on alumina or silica gel may be employed. Some of the intermediates and end products may be obtained in the form of colorless or pale brown viscous oils which are freed or purified from volatile components under reduced pressure and at moderately elevated temperature. If the intermediates and end products  
15 are obtained as solids, they may be purified by recrystallisation or digestion.

- Due to their excellent activity, the compounds of the general formula I may be used for controlling animal pests. Animal pests include harmful insects and acaridae. Accordingly, the invention further provides an agriculturally composition for combating animal  
20 pests, especially insects and/or acaridae which comprises such an amount of at least one compound of the general formula I and/or at least one agriculturally useful salt of I and at least one inert liquid and/or solid agronomically acceptable carrier that it has a pesticidal action and, if desired, at least one surfactant.

- 25 Such a composition may contain a single active compound of the general formula I or a mixture of several active compounds I according to the present invention. The composition according to the present invention may comprise an individual isomer or mixtures of isomers.

- 30 The 2-cyanobenzenesulfonamide compounds I and the pesticidal compositions comprising them are effective agents for controlling animal pests. Animal pests controlled by the compounds of formula I include for example:

- 35 insects from the order of the lepidopterans (*Lepidoptera*), for example *Agrotis ypsilon*, *Agrotis segetum*, *Alabama argillacea*, *Anticarsia gemmatilis*, *Argyresthia conjugella*, *Autographa gamma*, *Bupalus piniarius*, *Cacoecia murinana*, *Capua reticulana*, *Chelima tobias brumata*, *Choristoneura fumiferana*, *Choristoneura occidentalis*, *Cirphis unipuncta*, *Cydia pomonella*, *Dendrolimus pini*, *Diaphania nitidalis*, *Diatraea grandiosella*, *Earias insulana*, *Elasmopalpus lignosellus*, *Eupoecilia ambiguella*, *Evetria bouliana*, *Feltia subterranea*, *Galleria mellonella*, *Grapholitha funebrana*, *Grapholitha molesta*, *Heliothis armigera*, *Heliothis virescens*, *Heliothis zea*, *Hellula undalis*, *Hibernia defoliaria*, *Hyphantria cunea*, *Hyponomeuta malinellus*, *Keiferia lycopersicella*, *Lambdina fiscellaria*, *Laphygma exigua*, *Leucoptera coffeella*, *Leucoptera scitella*, *Lithocolletis blancardella*, *Lobesia botrana*, *Loxostege sticticalis*, *Lymantria dispar*, *Lymantria*



*monacha*, *Lyonetia clerkella*, *Malacosoma neustria*, *Mamestra brassicae*, *Orgyia pseudotsugata*, *Ostrinia nubilalis*, *Panolis flammea*, *Pectinophora gossypiella*, *Peridroma saucia*, *Phalera bucephala*, *Phthorimaea operculella*, *Phyllocnistis citrella*, *Pieris brassicae*, *Plathypena scabra*, *Plutella xylostella*, *Pseudoplusia includens*, *Rhyacionia frugiperda*, *Scrobipalpula absoluta*, *Sitotroga cerealella*, *Sparganothis pilleriana*, *Spodoptera* 5 *frugiperda*, *Spodoptera littoralis*, *Spodoptera litura*, *Thaumtopoea pityocampa*, *Tortrix viridana*, *Trichoplusia ni* and *Zeiraphera canadensis*;

beetles (Coleoptera), for example *Agrilus sinuatus*, *Agriotes lineatus*, *Agriotes obscurus*, 10 *Amphimallus solstitialis*, *Anisandrus dispar*, *Anthonomus grandis*, *Anthonomus pomorum*, *Atomaria linearis*, *Blastophagus piniperda*, *Blitophaga undata*, *Bruchus rufimanus*, *Bruchus pisorum*, *Bruchus lentis*, *Byctiscus betulae*, *Cassida nebulosa*, *Cerotoma trifurcata*, *Ceuthorrhynchus assimilis*, *Ceuthorrhynchus napi*, *Chaetocnema tibialis*, *Conoderus vespertinus*, *Crioceris asparagi*, *Diabrotica longicornis*, *Diabrotica* 12 *punctata*, *Diabrotica virgifera*, *Epilachna varivestis*, *Epitrix hirtipennis*, *Eutinobothrus brasiliensis*, *Hylobius abietis*, *Hypera brunneipennis*, *Hypera postica*, *Ips typographus*, *Lema bilineata*, *Lema melanopus*, *Leptinotarsa decemlineata*, *Limonius californicus*, *Lissorhoptrus oryzophilus*, *Melanotus communis*, *Meligethes aeneus*, *Melolontha hippocastani*, *Melolontha melolontha*, *Oulema oryzae*, *Otiorrhynchus sulcatus*, *Otiorrhynchus* 20 *ovatus*, *Phaedon cochleariae*, *Phyllotreta chrysocephala*, *Phyllophaga* sp., *Phyllopertha horticola*, *Phyllotreta nemorum*, *Phyllotreta striolata*, *Popillia japonica*, *Sitona lineatus* and *Sitophilus granaria*;

dipterans (Diptera), for example *Aedes aegypti*, *Aedes vexans*, *Anastrepha ludens*, 25 *Anopheles maculipennis*, *Ceratitis capitata*, *Chrysomya bezziana*, *Chrysomya hominivorax*, *Chrysomya macellaria*, *Contarinia sorghicola*, *Cordylobia anthropophaga*, *Culex pipiens*, *Dacus cucurbitae*, *Dacus oleae*, *Dasineura brassicae*, *Fannia canicularis*, *Gasterophilus intestinalis*, *Glossina morsitans*, *Haematobia irritans*, *Haplodiplosis equestris*, *Hylemyia platura*, *Hypoderma lineata*, *Liriomyza sativae*, *Liriomyza trifolii*, 30 *Lucilia caprina*, *Lucilia cuprina*, *Lucilia sericata*, *Lycoria pectoralis*, *Mayetiola destructor*, *Musca domestica*, *Muscina stabulans*, *Oestrus ovis*, *Oscinella frit*, *Pegomya hyoscyami*, *Phorbia antiqua*, *Phorbia brassicae*, *Phorbia coarctata*, *Rhagoletis cerasi*, *Rhagoletis pomonella*, *Tabanus bovinus*, *Tipula oleracea* and *Tipula paludosa*;

thrips (Thysanoptera), e.g. *Dichromothrips corbetti*, *Frankliniella fusca*, *Frankliniella* 35 *occidentalis*, *Frankliniella tritici*, *Scirtothrips citri*, *Thrips oryzae*, *Thrips palmi* and *Thrips tabaci*;

hymenopterans (Hymenoptera), e.g. *Athalia rosae*, *Atta cephalotes*, *Atta sexdens*, *Atta* 40 *texana*, *Hoplocampa minuta*, *Hoplocampa testudinea*, *Monomorium pharaonis*, *Solenopsis geminata* and *Solenopsis invicta*;

heteropterans (Heteroptera), e.g. *Acrosternum hilare*, *Blissus leucopterus*, *Cyrtopeltis notatus*, *Dysdercus cingulatus*, *Dysdercus intermedius*, *Eurygaster integriceps*,

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*Euschistus impictiventris*, *Leptoglossus phyllopus*, *Lygus lineolaris*, *Lygus pratensis*,  
*Nezara viridula*, *Piesma quadrata*, *Solubea insularis* and *Thyanta perditor*,

homopterans (Homoptera), e.g. *Acyrtosiphon onobrychis*, *Adelges laricis*, *Aphidula*  
 5 *nasturtii*, *Aphis fabae*, *Aphis forbesi*, *Aphis pomi*, *Aphis gossypii*, *Aphis grossulariae*,  
*Aphis schneideri*, *Aphis spiraecola*, *Aphis sambuci*, *Acyrtosiphon pisum*, *Aulacorthum*  
*solani*, *Bemisia argentifolii*, *Brachycaudus cardui*, *Brachycaudus helichrysi*, *Brachy-*  
*caudus persicae*, *Brachycaudus prunicola*, *Brivicoryne brassicae*, *Capitophorus horni*,  
*Cerosipha gossypii*, *Chaetosiphon fragaefolii*, *Cryptomyzus ribis*, *Dreyfusia nordman-*  
 10 *nianae*, *Dreyfusia piceae*, *Dysaphis radicola*, *Dysaulacorthum pseudosolani*, *Dysaphis*  
*plantaginea*, *Dysaphis pyri*, *Empoasca fabae*, *Hyalopterus pruni*, *Hyperomyzus lactu-*  
*cae*, *Macrosiphum avenae*, *Macrosiphum euphorbiae*, *Macrosiphon rosae*, *Megoura*  
*viciae*, *Melanaphis pyramis*, *Metopolophium dirhodum*, *Myzodes persicae*, *Myzus as-*  
*calonicus*, *Myzus cerasi*, *Myzus persicae*, *Myzus varians*, *Nasonovia ribis-nigri*, *Nila-*  
 15 *parvata lugens*, *Pemphigus bursarius*, *Perkinsiella saccharicida*, *Phorodon humuli*,  
*Psylla mali*, *Psylla piri*, *Rhopalomyzus ascalonicus*, *Rhopalosiphum maidis*, *Rhopalosi-*  
*phum padi*, *Rhopalosiphum insertum*, *Sappaphis mala*, *Sappaphis mali*, *Schizaphis*  
*graminum*, *Schizoneura lanuginosa*, *Sitobion avenae*, *Sogatella furcifera*, *Trialeurodes*  
*vaporariorum*, *Toxoptera aurantii* and *Viteus vitifolii*;

20 termites (Isoptera), e.g. *Calotermes flavicollis*, *Leucotermes flavipes*, *Reticulitermes*  
*flavipes*, *Reticulitermes lucifugus* und *Termes natalensis*;

orthopterans (Orthoptera), e.g. *Acheta domestica*, *Blatta orientalis*, *Blattella germanica*,  
 25 *Forficula auricularia*, *Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa*, *Locusta migratoria*, *Melanoplus bivittatus*,  
*Melanoplus femur-rubrum*, *Melanoplus mexicanus*, *Melanoplus sanguinipes*,  
*Melanoplus spretus*, *Nomadacris septemfasciata*, *Periplaneta americana*, *Schistocerca*  
*americana*, *Schistocerca peregrina*, *Stauronotus maroccanus* and *Tachycines*  
*asynamorus*;

30 Arachnoidea, such as arachnids (Acarina), e.g. of the families *Argasidae*, *Ixodidae* and  
*Sarcoptidae*, such as *Amblyomma americanum*, *Amblyomma variegatum*, *Argas*  
*persicus*, *Boophilus annulatus*, *Boophilus decoloratus*, *Boophilus microplus*,  
*Dermacentor silvarum*, *Hyalomma truncatum*, *Ixodes ricinus*, *Ixodes rubicundus*,  
 35 *Ornithodoros moubata*, *Otobius megnini*, *Dermanyssus gallinae*, *Psoroptes ovis*,  
*Rhipicephalus appendiculatus*, *Rhipicephalus evertsi*, *Sarcoptes scabiei*, and  
*Eriophyes* spp. such as *Aculus schlechtendali*, *Phyllocoptrata oleivora* and *Eriophyes*  
*sheldoni*; *Tarsonemidae* spp. such as *Phytonemus pallidus* and *Polyphagotarsonemus*  
*latus*; *Tenuipalpidae* spp. such as *Brevipalpus phoenicis*; *Tetranychidae* spp. such as  
 40 *Tetranychus cinnabarinus*, *Tetranychus kanzawai*, *Tetranychus pacificus*, *Tetranychus*  
*telarius* and *Tetranychus urticae*, *Panonychus ulmi*, *Panonychus citri*, and *oligonychus*  
*pratensis*;

## 16

Siphonatera, e.g. *Xenopsylla cheopsis*, *Ceratophyllus* spp.

The compounds of the formula I are preferably used for controlling pests of the orders Homoptera and Thysanoptera.

5

The compounds of formula (I) or the pesticidal compositions comprising them may be used to protect growing plants and crops from attack or infestation by animal pests, especially insects or acaridae by contacting the plant/crop with a pesticidally effective amount of compounds of formula (I). The term "crop" refers both to growing and har-

10

vested crops.

The animal pest, especially the insect, acaridae, plant and/or soil or water in which the plant is growing can be contacted with the present compound(s) I or composition(s) containing them by any application method known in the art. As such, "contacting" in-

15

cludes both direct contact (applying the compounds/compositions directly on the animal pest, especially the insect and/or acaridae, and/or plant - typically to the foliage, stem or roots of the plant) and indirect contact (applying the compounds/compositions to the locus of the animal pest, especially the insect and/or acaridae, and/or plant).

20

Moreover, animal pests, especially insects or acaridae may be controlled by contacting the target pest, its food supply or its locus with a pesticidally effective amount of compounds of formula (I). As such, the application may be carried out before or after the infection of the locus, growing crops, or harvested crops by the pest.

25

"Locus" means a habitat, breeding ground, plant, seed, soil, area, material or environment in which a pest or parasite is growing or may grow.

30

Effective amounts suitable for use in the method of invention may vary depending upon the particular formula I compound, target pest, method of application, application timing, weather conditions, animal pest habitat, especially insect, or acarid habitat, or the like. In general, for use in treating crop plants, the rate of application of the compounds I and/or compositions according to this invention may be in the range of about 0.1 g to about 4000 g per hectare, desirably from about 25 g to about 600 g per hectare, more desirably from about 50 g to about 500 g per hectare. For use in treating seeds, the

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typical rate of application is of from about 1 g to about 500 g per kilogram of seeds, desirably from about 2 g to about 300 g per kilogram of seeds, more desirably from about 10 g to about 200 g per kilogram of seeds. Customary application rates in the protection of materials are, for example, from about 0.001 g to about 2000 g, desirably from about 0.005 g to about 1000 g, of active compound per cubic meter of treated

40

material.

The compounds I or the pesticidal compositions comprising them can be used, for example in the form of solutions, emulsions, microemulsions, suspensions, flowable concentrates, dusts, powders, pastes and granules. The use form depends on the particu-

lar purpose; in any case, it should guarantee a fine and uniform distribution of the compound according to the invention.

5 The pesticidal composition for combating animal pests, especially insects and/or acaridae contains such an amount of at least one compound of the general formula I or an agriculturally useful salt of I and auxiliaries which are usually used in formulating pesticidal composition.

10 The formulations are prepared in a known manner, e.g. by extending the active ingredient with solvents and/or carriers, if desired using emulsifiers and dispersants, it also being possible to use other organic solvents as auxiliary solvents if water is used as the diluent. Auxiliaries which are suitable are essentially: solvents such as aromatics (e.g. xylene), chlorinated aromatics (e.g. chlorobenzenes), paraffins (e.g. mineral oil fractions), alcohols (e.g. methanol, butanol), ketones (e.g. cyclohexanone), amines (e.g. 15 ethanolamine, dimethylformamide) and water; carriers such as ground natural minerals (e.g. kaolins, clays, talc, chalk) and ground synthetic minerals (e.g. highly-disperse silica, silicates); emulsifiers such as non-ionic and anionic emulsifiers (e.g. polyoxyethylene fatty alcohol ethers, alkylsulfonates and arylsulfonates) and dispersants such as lignin-sulfite waste liquors and methylcellulose.

20 Suitable surfactants are alkali metal, alkaline earth metal and ammonium salts of lignosulfonic acid, naphthalenesulfonic acid, phenolsulfonic acid, dibutyl-naphthalenesulfonic acid, alkylarylsulfonates, alkyl sulfates, alkylsulfonates, fatty alcohol sulfates and fatty acids and their alkali metal and alkaline earth metal salts, salts of sulfated fatty alcohol 25 glycol ether, condensates of sulfonated naphthalene and naphthalene derivatives with formaldehyde, condensates of naphthalene or of naphthalenesulfonic acid with phenol or formaldehyde, polyoxyethylene octylphenyl ether, ethoxylated isooctylphenol, octylphenol, nonylphenol, alkylphenol polyglycol ethers, tributylphenyl polyglycol ethers, alkylaryl polyether alcohols, isotridecyl alcohol, fatty alcohol/ethylene oxide condensates, ethoxylated castor oil, polyoxyethylene alkyl ethers, ethoxylated polyoxypropyl- 30 ene, lauryl alcohol polyglycol ether acetal, sorbitol esters, lignin-sulfite waste liquors and methylcellulose.

35 Substances which are suitable for the preparation of directly sprayable solutions, emulsions, pastes or oil dispersions are mineral oil fractions of medium to high boiling point, such as kerosene or diesel oil, furthermore coal tar oils and oils of vegetable or animal origin, aliphatic, cyclic and aromatic hydrocarbons, e.g. benzene, toluene, xylene, paraffin, tetrahydronaphthalene, alkylated naphthalenes or their derivatives, methanol, ethanol, propanol, butanol, chloroform, carbon tetrachloride, cyclohexanol, cyclohexa- 40 none, chlorobenzene, isophorone, strongly polar solvents, e.g. dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, N-methylpyrrolidone and water.

Powders, materials for scattering and dusts can be prepared by mixing or concomitantly grinding the active substances with a solid carrier.



Granules, e.g. coated granules, compacted granules, impregnated granules and homogeneous granules, can be prepared by binding the active ingredients to solid carriers. Examples of solid carriers are mineral earths, such as silicas, silica gels, silicates, talc, kaolin, attaclay, limestone, lime, chalk, bole, loess, clay, dolomite, diatomaceous earth, calcium sulfate, magnesium sulfate, magnesium oxide, ground synthetic materials, fertilizers, e.g. ammonium sulfate, ammonium phosphate, ammonium nitrate, ureas, and products of vegetable origin, such as cereal meal, tree bark meal, wood meal and nutshell meal, cellulose powders and other solid carriers.

Such formulations or compositions of the present invention include a formula I compound of this invention (or combinations thereof) admixed with one or more agronomically acceptable inert, solid or liquid carriers. Those compositions contain a pesticidally effective amount of said compound or compounds, which amount may vary depending upon the particular compound, target pest, and method of use.

In general, the formulations comprise of from 0.01 to 95% by weight, preferably from 0.1 to 90% by weight, of the active ingredient. The active ingredients are employed in a purity of from 90% to 100%, preferably 95% to 100% (according to NMR spectrum).

The following are exemplary formulations:

- I. 5 parts by weight of a compound according to the invention are mixed intimately with 95 parts by weight of finely divided kaolin. This gives a dust which comprises 5% by weight of the active ingredient.
- II. 30 parts by weight of a compound according to the invention are mixed intimately with a mixture of 92 parts by weight of pulverulent silica gel and 8 parts by weight of paraffin oil which had been sprayed onto the surface of this silica gel. This gives a formulation of the active ingredient with good adhesion properties (comprises 23% by weight of active ingredient).
- III. 10 parts by weight of a compound according to the invention are dissolved in a mixture composed of 90 parts by weight of xylene, 6 parts by weight of the adduct of 8 to 10 mol of ethylene oxide and 1 mol of oleic acid N-monoethanolamide, 2 parts by weight of calcium dodecylbenzenesulfonate and 2 parts by weight of the adduct of 40 mol of ethylene oxide and 1 mol of castor oil (comprises 9% by weight of active ingredient).
- IV. 20 parts by weight of a compound according to the invention are dissolved in a mixture composed of 60 parts by weight of cyclohexanone, 30 parts by weight of isobutanol, 5 parts by weight of the adduct of 7 mol of ethylene oxide and 1 mol of isooctylphenol and 5 parts by weight of the adduct of 40 mol of ethylene oxide

and 1 mol of castor oil (comprises 16% by weight of active ingredient).

- 5 V. 80 parts by weight of a compound according to the invention are mixed thoroughly with 3 parts by weight of sodium diisobutyl naphthalene- $\alpha$ -sulfonate, 10 parts by weight of the sodium salt of a lignosulfonic acid from a sulfite waste liquor and 7 parts by weight of pulverulent silica gel, and the mixture is ground in a hammer mill (comprises 80% by weight of active ingredient).
- 10 VI. 90 parts by weight of a compound according to the invention are mixed with 10 parts by weight of N-methyl- $\alpha$ -pyrrolidone, which gives a solution which is suitable for use in the form of microdrops (comprises 90% by weight of active ingredient).
- 15 VII. 20 parts by weight of a compound according to the invention are dissolved in a mixture composed of 40 parts by weight of cyclohexanone, 30 parts by weight of isobutanol, 20 parts by weight of the adduct of 7 mol of ethylene oxide and 1 mol of isooctylphenol and 10 parts by weight of the adduct of 40 mol of ethylene oxide and 1 mol of castor oil. Pouring the solution into 100,000 parts by weight of water and finely distributing it therein gives an aqueous dispersion which comprises 0.02% by weight of the active ingredient.
- 20
- 25 VIII. 20 parts by weight of a compound according to the invention are mixed thoroughly with 3 parts by weight of sodium diisobutyl naphthalene- $\alpha$ -sulfonate, 17 parts by weight of the sodium salt of a lignosulfonic acid from a sulfite waste liquor and 60 parts by weight of pulverulent silica gel, and the mixture is ground in a hammer mill. Finely distributing the mixture in 20,000 parts by weight of water gives a spray mixture which comprises 0.1% by weight of the active ingredient.

30 The active ingredients can be used as such, in the form of their formulations or the use forms prepared therefrom, e.g. in the form of directly sprayable solutions, powders, suspensions or dispersions, emulsions, oil dispersions, pastes, dusts, materials for spreading, or granules, by means of spraying, atomizing, dusting, scattering or pouring. The use forms depend entirely on the intended purposes; in any case, this is intended to guarantee the finest possible distribution of the active ingredients according to the

35 invention.

40 Aqueous use forms can be prepared from emulsion concentrates, pastes or wettable powders (sprayable powders, oil dispersions) by adding water. To prepare emulsions, pastes or oil dispersions, the substances as such or dissolved in an oil or solvent, can be homogenized in water by means of wetter, tackifier, dispersant or emulsifier. Alternatively, it is possible to prepare concentrates composed of active substance, wetter, tackifier, dispersant or emulsifier and, if appropriate, solvent or oil, and such concentrates are suitable for dilution with water.

## 20

The active ingredient concentrations in the ready-to-use products can be varied within substantial ranges. In general, they are from 0.0001 to 10%, preferably from 0.01 to 1%.

- 5 The active ingredients may also be used successfully in the ultra-low-volume process (ULV), it being possible to apply formulations comprising over 95% by weight of active ingredient, or even the active ingredient without additives.

- 10 Compositions to be used according to this invention may also contain other active ingredients, for example other pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, other pesticides, or bactericides, fertilizers such as ammonium nitrate, urea, potash, and superphosphate, phytotoxicants and plant growth regulators, safeners and nematicides. These additional ingredients may be used sequentially or in combination with the above-described compositions, if appropriate also added only immediately  
15 prior to use (tank mix). For example, the plant(s) may be sprayed with a composition of this invention either before or after being treated with other active ingredients.

- These agents can be admixed with the agents used according to the invention in a weight ratio of 1:10 to 10:1. Mixing the compounds I or the compositions comprising  
20 them in the use form as pesticides with other pesticides frequently results in a broader pesticidal spectrum of action.

- The following list of pesticides together with which the compounds of formula I can be used, is intended to illustrate the possible combinations, but not to impose any  
25 limitation:

- Organophosphates: Acephate, Azinphos-methyl, Chlorpyrifos, Chlorfenvinphos, Diazinon, Dichlorvos, Dicrotophos, Dimethoate, Disulfoton, Ethion, Fenitrothion, Fenthion, Isoxathion, Malathion, Methamidophos, Methidathion, Methyl-Parathion, Mevinphos,  
30 Monocrotophos, Oxydemeton-methyl, Paraoxon, Parathion, Phenthoate, Phosalone, Phosmet, Phosphamidon, Phorate, Phoxim, Pirimiphos-methyl, Profenofos, Prothiofos, Sulprophos, Triazophos, Trichlorfon;

- Carbamates: Alanycarb, Benfuracarb, Carbaryl, Carbosulfan, Fenoxycarb, Furathiocarb, indoxacarb, Methiocarb, Methomyl, Oxamyl, Pirimicarb, Propoxur, Thiodicarb,  
35 Triazamate;

- Pyrethroids: Bifenthrin, Cyfluthrin, Cypermethrin, Deltamethrin, Esfenvalerate, Ethofenprox, Fenpropathrin, Fenvalerate, Cyhalothrin, Lambda-Cyhalothrin, Permethrin, Si-  
40 lafluofen, Tau-Fluvalinate, Tefluthrin, Tralomethrin, Zeta-Cypermethrin;

Arthropod growth regulators: a) chitin synthesis inhibitors: benzoylureas: Chlorfluazuron, Diflubenzuron, Flucycloxuron, Flufenoxuron, Hexaflumuron, Lufenuron, Novaluron, Teflubenzuron, Triflumuron; Buprofezin, Diofenolan, Hexythiazox, Etoxazole,

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Clofentazine; b) ecdysone antagonists: Halofenozide, Methoxyfenozide, Tebufenozide; c) juvenoids: Pyriproxyfen, Methoprene, Fenoxycarb; d) lipid biosynthesis inhibitors: Spirodiclofen;

- 5 Various: Abamectin, Acequinocyl, Amitraz, Azadirachtin, Bifenazate, Cartap, Chlorfenapyr, Chlordimeform, Cyromazine, Diafenthiuron, Dinetofuran, Diofenolan, Etmectin, Endosulfan, Ethiprole, Fenazaquin, Fipronil, Formetanate, Formetanate hydrochloride, Hydramethylnon, Imidacloprid, Indoxacarb, Pyridaben, Pymetrozine, Spinosad, Sulfur, Tebufenpyrad, Thiamethoxam, and Thiocyclam.

- 10 The present invention is now illustrated in further details by the following examples.

I. Synthesis Examples

- 15 Example 1: n-Propyl-(2-cyano-3-methyl-phenyl)sulfonamide

1.1: 2-Cyano-3-methyl-phenylsulfonylchloride

- 20 A solution of 11.6 g (88 mmol) of 2-amino-6-methylbenzonitrile (prepared, e.g. according to WO 94/18980) in 120 ml of glacial acetic acid was initially charged and 32.2 g of concentrated hydrochloric acid were slowly added at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperatures for 10 minutes and then a solution of 6.4 g (92 mmol) of sodium nitrite in 20 ml of water was added dropwise at 5-10°C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0°C for one hour to obtain the diazonium salt. In a separate stirred flask, a saturated solution of sulfur dioxide in glacial acetic acid was prepared at 25 10°C and a solution of 5.5 g of copper(II) chloride in 11 ml of water was added. The reaction mixture of the diazonium salt which had been prepared beforehand was then added dropwise to the solution of the copper salt. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for additional 45 minutes. Then the reaction mixture was poured into 30 ice-cooled water and the aqueous phase was extracted three times with dichloromethane. The combined organic layers were dried over a drying agent and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to afford 16.4 g (87% of the theory) of the title compound having a melting point of 75-77°C.

- 35 1.2: n-Propyl-(2-cyano-3-methyl-phenyl)sulfonamide

- 40 A solution of 1 g (5 mmol) of 2-cyano-3-methyl-phenylsulfonylchloride in 10 ml of tetrahydrofuran was added to a solution of 630 mg (11 mmol) of n-propylamine in 20 ml of tetrahydrofuran at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 hours before water was added. The aqueous phase was acidified with hydrochloric acid (10% strength by weight, aqueous solution) to pH = 3 and then extracted three times with dichloromethane. The combined organic extracts were dried over sodium sulfate and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to afford 850 mg (85% of theory) of the title compound having a melting point of 74-77°C.



## Example 2: Methyl-(2-cyano-3-methoxy-phenyl)sulfonamide

## 5 2.1: 2-Amino-6-methoxy-benzonitrile

A solution of 70 g (0.5 mol) of 2-amino-6-fluoro-benzonitrile (prepared, e.g. according to US 4,504,660) in 250 ml of N,N-dimethylformamide was initially charged and a solution of 30.6 g (0.55 mol) sodium methoxide in 70 ml of methanol was added dropwise at room temperature while stirring. The mixture was then refluxed for 5 hours under stirring. The completion of the reaction was monitored by TLC. Additional 25 g of sodium methoxide in 35 ml methanol were added and the reaction mixture was refluxed for additional 4 hours while stirring. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, the resulting residue was triturated with water, sucked off and the obtained solids were dissolved in ethyl acetate. The resulting solution was concentrated in vacuo. The obtained residue was triturated with petroleum ether and sucked off to afford 48 g (63% of theory) of a brownish solid having a melting point of 143-146°C.

## 2.2: 2-Cyano-3-methoxy-phenylsulfonylchloride

10 g of concentrated hydrochloric acid were slowly added to a solution of 4.0 (27 mmol) of 2-amino-6-methoxy-benzonitrile in 32 ml of glacial acetic acid at room temperature while stirring. The mixture was stirred at room temperatures for 10 minutes. Then a solution of 1.9 g (27.3 mmol) sodium nitrite in 5 ml of water was added at 5-10°C and the reaction mixture was stirred at 0°C for 1 hour to obtain the diazonium salt. In a separate flask, a saturated solution of sulfur dioxide in 68 ml of glacial acetic acid was prepared at room temperature and a solution of 1.7 g of copper(II) chloride in 4 ml of water was added. The reaction mixture of the diazonium salt which had been prepared beforehand was then quickly added to the solution of the copper salt. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for additional 2.5 hours. The reaction mixture was then poured into ice-cooled water. The aqueous layer was extracted three times with dichloromethane. The combined organic extracts were dried over a drying agent and filtered off with suction. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to afford 5.3 g (85% of theory) of the title compound having a melting point of 96-99°C.

## 2.3: Methyl-(2-cyano-3-methoxy-phenyl)sulfonamide

A solution of 1.25 g (5.4 mmol) of 2-cyano-3-methoxy-phenylsulfonylchloride in 30 ml of tetrahydrofuran was added to a solution of 960 mg (12 mmol) of an aqueous solution of methylamine (40% by weight) in 20 ml of tetrahydrofuran at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 minutes before water was added. The aqueous phase was acidified to pH = 3 using hydrochloric acid (10% strength by weight, aqueous solution). The aqueous phase was then extracted three times with dichloromethane. The combined organic extracts were dried over sodium

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sulfate and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo and the resulting residue was triturated with methyl tert-butyl ether to afford 0.28 g (23% of theory) of the title compound having a melting point of 121-128 °C.

## 5 Example 3: Ethyl-(4-chloro-2-cyano-3-methyl-phenyl)sulfonamide

## 3.1: 5-Chloro-6-methyl-2-thiocyano-benzonitrile

30 g (190 mmol) of 2-methyl-3-cyano-4-thiocyanatoaniline (prepared according to EP 0945449) were dissolved in 160 ml of glacial acetic acid and 63 g of concentrated hydrochloric acid were slowly added dropwise under stirring. The mixture was stirred for 10 minutes, and then a solution of 11 g (160 mmol) of sodium nitrite in 23 ml of water was added dropwise at 5-10 °C to obtain the diazonium salt. In a separate flask, a solution of 16 g of copper(I) chloride in 50 ml of concentrated hydrochloric acid was prepared. The reaction mixture of the diazonium salt which had been prepared beforehand was then quickly added dropwise to the solution of the copper salt. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours. The reaction mixture was then poured into ice-cooled water and the aqueous phase was extracted three times with dichloromethane. The combined organic layers were dried, filtered and then evaporated. The resulting crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: toluene/ethyl acetate) to yield 14.3 g (43% of theory) of the title compound having a melting point of 78-80°C.

## 3.2: 4-Chloro-2-cyano-3-methyl-phenylsulfonylchloride

25 A suspension of 3.0 g (21 mmol) of 5-chloro-6-methyl-2-thiocyanatobenzonitrile in 20 ml of methanol was initially charged, and a solution of 1.9 g (14 mmol) of sodium sulfide in 8 ml of water was added while the temperature was maintained at 20 to 35°C. The resulting yellow solution was stirred at room temperature for 2 days. The mixture was then diluted with water and extracted with methyl tert-butyl ether. The aqueous phase was adjusted to pH 7 by addition of concentrated hydrochloric acid and then extracted with dichloromethane. The aqueous phase was subsequently adjusted to pH 1 by addition of concentrated hydrochloric acid and then extracted with dichloromethane. The organic layer was dried, filtered and then concentrated. The obtained residue was suspended in a mixture of 20 ml of glacial acetic acid, 5 ml of dichloromethane and 18 ml of water and a stream of chlorine gas was then introduced at 25-45°C over a period of 3 hours. The reaction mixture was diluted with dichloromethane and the organic phase was washed with ice-cooled water. Drying of the organic phase over sodium sulfate was followed by filtration and concentration of the solution to yield 40 1.3 g (36% of theory) of the title compound having a melting point of 69-72°C.

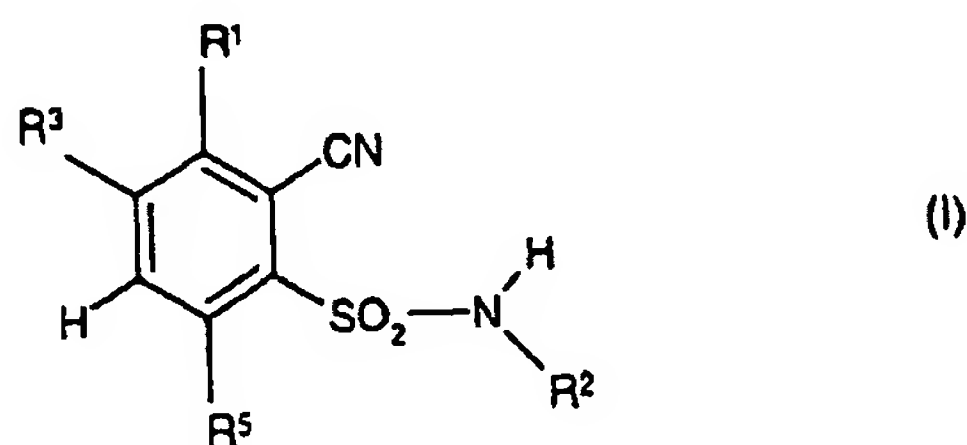
## 3.3: Ethyl-(4-chloro-2-cyano-3-methyl-phenyl)sulfonamide

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An aqueous solution of 770 mg (12 mmol) of ethylamine (70% by weight) in 20 ml of tetrahydrofuran was initially charged, and a solution of 1.3 g (5.2 mmol) of 4-chloro-2-cyano-3-methylphenylsulfonylchloride from 3.2. in 10 ml of tetrahydrofuran was added dropwise at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours, diluted with water and adjusted to pH 3 by addition of hydrochloric acid (10% strength by weight, aqueous solution). The aqueous phase was extracted three times with dichloromethane. The combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and then evaporated to dryness in vacuo to obtain 0.5 g (28% of theory) of a brown solid having a melting point of 85-90°C.

10

The compounds no. 4 to 75 listed in the following table 1 were prepared analogously.



15 Table 1:

Example no.	R <sup>3</sup>	R <sup>5</sup>	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	m.p. [°C]
1.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	n-CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	74-77
2.	H	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>3</sub>	121-128
3.	Cl	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	85-90
4.	CN	CH <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>3</sub>	178-180
5.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	112-114
6.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	cyclopropyl	140-142
7.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	n-C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub>	112-116
8.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	102-103
9.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	n-CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	119-120
10.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	139-140
11.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	4-(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> C-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	147-151
12.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	117-119
13.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	4-(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> C-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	97-103
14.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	4-Cl-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	150-151
15.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	3-(CH <sub>3</sub> O)-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	123-125
16.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	3-(CH <sub>3</sub> O)-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	117-122
17.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	4-(CH <sub>3</sub> O)-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	156-161
18.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	4-(CH <sub>3</sub> O)-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	127-132
19.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	2-(CH <sub>3</sub> O)-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	103-108
20.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	2-(CH <sub>3</sub> O)-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	127-130
21.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	4-Cl-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	127-131

## 25

Example no.	R <sup>3</sup>	R <sup>5</sup>	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	m.p. [°C]
22.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	3-Cl-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	102-108
23.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	3-Cl-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	118-125
24.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	2-Cl-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	118-125
25.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	2-Cl-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	128-131
26.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	4-(F <sub>3</sub> C)-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	153-155
27.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	4-(F <sub>3</sub> C)-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	135-137
28.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	cyclopropyl-CH <sub>2</sub> -	106-110
29.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>3</sub>	83-89
30.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	98-103
31.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	prop-2-ynyl	104-107
32.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CN	106-110
33.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	cyclopropyl-CH <sub>2</sub> -	89-93
34.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CN	130-134
35.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	prop-2-ynyl	
36.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> C-CH <sub>2</sub> -	112-114
37.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> C-CH <sub>2</sub> -	86-93
38.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub> =CHCH <sub>2</sub> -	
39.	H	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	121-126
40.	H	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	108-119
41.	H	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	-CH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	104-113
42.	H	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	prop-2-ynyl	122-138
43.	H	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CN	
44.	H	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub> =CHCH <sub>2</sub> -	
45.	H	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	186-198
46.	Cl	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>3</sub>	112-122
47.	Cl	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	
48.	H	H	OCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>3</sub>	91-95
49.	H	H	OCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	111-113
50.	H	H	OCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	H	183-186
51.	Cl	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	132-135
52.	Cl	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	86-94
53.	Cl	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	prop-2-ynyl	
54.	Cl	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> C=CHCH <sub>2</sub> -	95-96
55.	Cl	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	FH <sub>2</sub> CCH <sub>2</sub> -	115-121
56.	H	H	OCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	oil
57.	H	H	OCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	prop-2-ynyl	105-112
58.	H	H	OCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CN	129-134
59.	H	H	OCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub> =CHCH <sub>2</sub> -	oil
60.	H	H	OCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub>	113-115
61.	H	H	OCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	cyclopropyl-CH <sub>2</sub>	128-130
62.	Cl	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CN	134-138



## 26

Example no.	R <sup>3</sup>	R <sup>5</sup>	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	m.p. [°C]
63.	H	H	OCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CF <sub>3</sub>	oil
64.	H	H	OCH <sub>2</sub> CH=CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub>	oil
65.	H	H	OCH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub>	oil
66.	H	H	OCHF <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub>	98-100
67.	H	H	OCH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	H	132-136
68.	H	H	OCH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	prop-2-ynyl	oil
69.	H	H	OCH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> CN	oil
70.	H	H	OCH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	cyclopropyl	oil
71.	H	H	OCH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	-CH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	oil
72.	H	H	OCH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	oil
73.	H	H	OCH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub>	oil
74.	Br	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	149-151
75.	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	171-174

m.p. melting point

## II. Examples of action against pests

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The action of the compounds of the formula I against pests was demonstrated by the following experiments:

### Green Peach Aphid (*Myzus persicae*)

10

The active compounds were formulated in 50:50 acetone:water and 100 ppm Kinelic® surfactant.

Pepper plants in the 2<sup>nd</sup> leaf-pair stage (variety 'California Wonder') were infested with approximately 40 laboratory-reared aphids by placing infested leaf sections on top of the test plants. The leaf sections were removed after 24 hr. The leaves of the intact plants were dipped into gradient solutions of the test compound and allowed to dry. Test plants were maintained under fluorescent light (24 hour photoperiod) at about 25°C and 20-40% relative humidity. Aphid mortality on the treated plants, relative to mortality on check plants, was determined after 5 days.

In this test, compounds nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 12, 23, 29, 30, 31, 33, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 52, 53, 54, and 55 at 300 ppm showed over 85% mortality in comparison with untreated controls.

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### Cotton Aphid (*Aphis gossypii*)

The active compounds were formulated in 50:50 acetone:water and 100 ppm Kinelic® surfactant.

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5 Cotton plants in the cotyledon stage (variety 'Delta Pine', one plant per pot) were infested by placing a heavily infested leaf from the main colony on top of each cotyledon. The aphids were allowed to transfer to the host plant overnight, and the leaf used to transfer the aphids were removed. The cotyledons were dipped in the test solution and allowed to dry. After 5 days, mortality counts were made.

10 In this test, compounds nos. 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, and 55 at 300 ppm showed over 85% mortality in comparison with untreated controls.

#### Bean Aphid (*Aphis fabae*)

15 The active compounds were formulated in 50:50 acetone:water and 100 ppm Kinetic® surfactant.

20 Nasturtium plants grown in Metro mix in the 1<sup>st</sup> leaf-pair stage (variety 'Mixed Jewel') were infested with approximately 2-30 laboratory-reared aphids by placing infested cut plants on top of the test plants. The cut plants were removed after 24 hr. Each plant was dipped into the test solution to provide complete coverage of the foliage, stem, protruding seed surface and surrounding cube surface and allowed to dry in the fume hood. The treated plants were kept at about 25°C with continuous fluorescent light. Aphid mortality is determined after 3 days.

25 In this test, compounds nos. 30, 38, 5, 6, 7, 8, 23, 29, 32, 33, 34, 35, 40, 41, 42, and 45 at 300 ppm showed over 85% mortality in comparison with untreated controls.

#### Silverleaf whitefly (*Bemisia argentifolii*)

30 The active compounds were formulated in 50:50 acetone:water and 100 ppm Kinetic® surfactant.

35 Selected cotton plants were grown to the cotyledon state (one plant per pot). The cotyledons were dipped into the test solution to provide complete coverage of the foliage and placed in a well-vented area to dry. Each pot with treated seedling was placed in a plastic cup and 10 to 12 whitefly adults (approximately 3-5 day old) were introduced. The insects were collected using an aspirator and an 0.6 cm, non-toxic Tygon® tubing (R-3603) connected to a barrier pipette tip. The tip, containing the collected insects, 40 was then gently inserted into the soil containing the treated plant, allowing insects to crawl out of the tip to reach the foliage for feeding. The cups were covered with a reusable screened lid (150 micron mesh polyester screen PeCap from Tetko Inc). Test plants were maintained in the holding room at about 25°C and 20-40% humidity for 3

## 28

days avoiding direct exposure to the fluorescent light (24 photoperiod) to prevent trapping of heat inside the cup. Mortality was assessed 3 days after treatment of the plants.

5 In this test, compounds no. 5 and 42 at 300 ppm showed over 70% mortality compared to untreated controls.

2-spotted Spider Mite (*Tetranychus urticae*, OP-resistant strain)

10 Sieva lima bean plants (variety 'Henderson') with primary leaves expanded to 7-12 cm were infested by placing on each a small piece from an infested leaf (with about 100 mites) taken from the main colony. This was done at about 2 hours before treatment to allow the mites to move over to the test plant to lay eggs. The piece of leaf used to transfer the mites was removed. The newly-infested plants were dipped in the test solution and allowed to dry. The test plants were kept under fluorescent light (24 hour photoperiod) at about 25°C and 20-40% relative humidity. After 5 days, one leaf was removed and mortality counts were made.

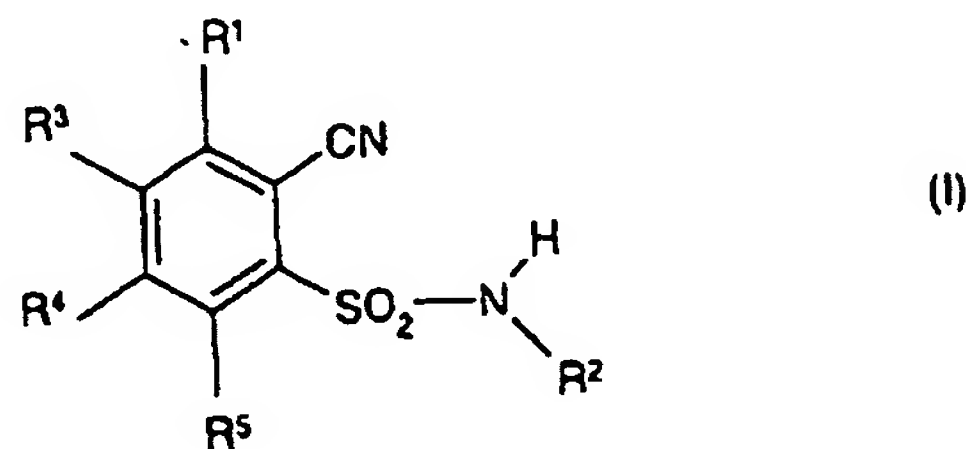
20 In this test, compounds nos. 8 and 30 at 300 ppm showed over 75% mortality compared to untreated controls.

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BASF Aktiengesellschaft

We claim:

1. A 2-cyanobenzenesulfonamide compound of the general formula I



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where

- $R^1$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkoxy;
- $R^2$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$ -alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$ -alkinyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$ -cycloalkyl or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy, wherein the five last-mentioned radicals may be unsubstituted, partially or fully halogenated and/or may carry one, two, or three radicals selected from the group consisting of  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylthio,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylsulfonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkylthio,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxycarbonyl, cyano, amino,  $(C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl)amino, di- $(C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl)amino and phenyl, it being possible for phenyl to be unsubstituted, partially or fully halogenated and/or to carry one, two or three substituents selected from the group consisting of  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkoxy; and

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$R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  are independently of one another selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, cyano, nitro,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$ -cycloalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylthio,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylsulfonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkylthio,  $C_2$ - $C_6$ -alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$ -alkinyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxycarbonyl, amino,  $(C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl)amino, di- $(C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl)amino, aminocarbonyl,  $(C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl)aminocarbonyl and di- $(C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl)aminocarbonyl;

30

and/or the agriculturally useful salts thereof.

2. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein in formula I  $R^1$  is  $C_1$ - $C_2$ -alkyl or  $C_1$ - $C_2$ -alkoxy.

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3. A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein in formula I  $R^1$  is methyl.

4. A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein in formula I  $R^1$  is methoxy.



## 2

5. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein in formula I  $R^2$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a straight-chain  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkyl and  $C_2$ - $C_4$ -alkinyl.
- 5 6. A compound as claimed in claim 5 wherein  $R^2$  is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, 2-fluoroethyl or prop-2-yn-1-yl.
7. A compound as claimed in claim 1 where in formula I at least one of the radicals  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  is different from hydrogen.
- 10 8. A compound as claimed in claim 7 where  $R^3$  is halogen.
9. A compound as claimed in claim 1 where in formula I the radicals  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  or  $R^5$  represent hydrogen.
- 15 10. An agricultural composition comprising such an amount of at least one compound of the general formula I and/or at least one agriculturally useful salt of I as defined in claim 1 and at least one inert liquid and/or solid agronomically acceptable carrier that it has a pesticidal action and, if desired, at least one surfactant.
- 20 11. A method of combating animal pests which comprises contacting the animal pests, their habit, breeding ground, food supply, plant, seed, soil, area, material or environment in which the animal pests are growing or may grow, or the materials, plants, seeds, soils, surfaces or spaces to be protected from animal attack or infestation with a pesticidally effective amount of at least one 2-cyano-benzenesulfonamide compound of the general formula I and/or at least one agriculturally acceptable salt thereof.
- 25 12. A method as defined in claim 11 where the animal pest is from the order Homoptera.
- 30 13. A method as defined in claim 11 where the animal pest is from the order Thysanoptera.
- 35 14. A method for protecting crops from attack or infestation by animal pests which comprises contacting a crop with a pesticidally effective amount of at least one 2-cyano-benzenesulfonamide compound of the general formula I and/or at least one salt thereof as defined in claim 1.

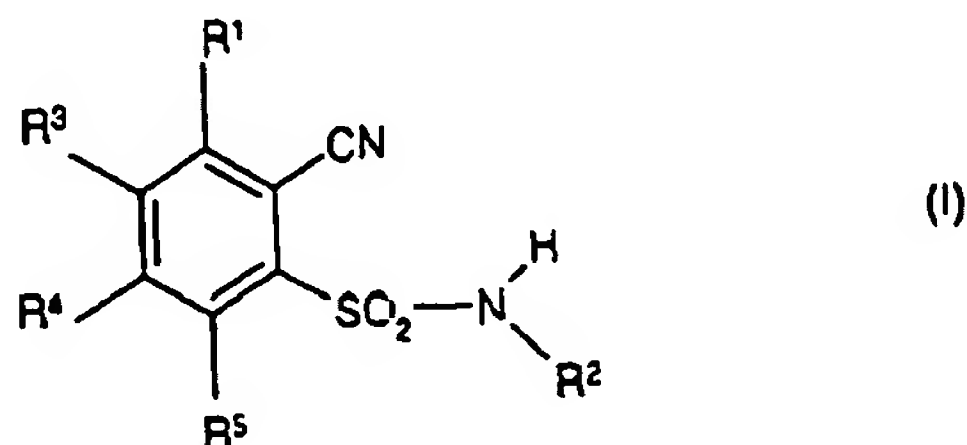
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## Abstract

## 2-Cyanobenzenesulfonamides for combating animal pests

5 The invention relates to 2-cyanobenzenesulfonamide compounds of the formula I



10 where the variables R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>5</sup> are as defined in claim 1 and/or to their agriculturally useful salts.

Moreover, the present invention relates to

- the use of compounds I and/or their salts for combating animal pests;
- agricultural compositions comprising such an amount of at least one compound of the general formula I and/or at least one agriculturally useful salt of I and at least one inert liquid and/or solid agronomically acceptable carrier that it has a pesticidal action and, if desired, at least one surfactant; and
- a method of combating animal pests which comprises contacting the animal pests, their habit, breeding ground, food supply, plant, seed, soil, area, material or environment in which the animal pests are growing or may grow, or the materials, plants, seeds, soils, surfaces or spaces to be protected from animal attack or infestation with a pesticidally effective amount of at least one 2-cyanobenzenesulfonamide compound of the general formula I and/or at least one agriculturally acceptable salt thereof.

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